

When we have finished we will report the result of our undertaking.

WM. W. SUMMERS.

North Manchester, Ind.

Dayton, Va.

A little church news from this part of the vineyard may be of interest to some of your readers. The Brethren and sisters of the Mount Zion congregation of Dayton, Va., held their communion services on Thursday evening, April 12, and a very enjoyable feast we had. Because of inclement weather and the prevalence of grip in our community not a large percentage of the membership was present. Only about twenty six communed, but when convened "in His name" only two or three are necessary to the fulfillment of His promise to be in the midst of them, and we needed only to look into the faces of some to feel that they realized his presence. Brother Thomas Good, of the Mount Olive congregation, was with us and conducted the services. He had been with us on the preceding Sunday and preached for us, a very acceptable sermon.

Preceding our communion service we held a short business meeting. A committee was appointed to arrange for a pastor for the coming year, also one to arrange for the repainting of our church house. Delegates were chosen for the coming District Conference, to be held at Bethlehem in May.

LAURA E. N. HEDRICK.

Goshen, Ind.

The union meeting was held at the chapel, March 31 and April 1, and it was largely attended. Brother Eikenberry is our pastor. The pastors present at the meeting were as follows: Rev. J. R. Kellar, Goshen, Ind., Rev. Rench, Milford, Ind., Rev. Flora, North Manchester, Ind., Rev. A. S. Menaugh, Goshen, Ind., Rev. A. R. Bemenderfer, Goshen, Ind., Rev. Eikenberry, North Manchester, Ind. It could not help but be a success with such able speakers.

Our love feast was largely attended by spectators and members. We have preaching every two weeks. Brother Eikenberry preached to us on Easter Sunday and eve from II Cor. 9:7. "So let him give." May God's blessing rest on those who try to do his will is my prayer.

We have a union Sunday school. Brother Jerry Neter is the superintendent and is doing a good work. The number of attendance is very good. May the Lord bless all the Sunday schools in the brotherhood is my prayer.

BLANCHE CRIPE.

Harrisonburg, Va.

As we promised news each month we will try to do as promised. The work here is greatly hindered by sickness. Nearly every home in and around Harrisonburg has had its sick ones, but we think there is at present a general improvement in health. It greatly hinders us in making preparation for the conference to convene May 10-13 as our workers are sick or have to see after sick

neighbors. Yet we go on trusting. A few days of energetic work will get every thing in good shape. We are anxious for a good energetic and spiritual conference. We are arranging with the railroad companies for reduced rates. We hope to succeed. It will be announced thru the EVANGELIST. Brethren make your arrangements to attend. Let me know of your coming and we will have comfortable homes provided for you. Be sure to write to me. We want to know of your coming. We will say to the preachers come prepared to preach. We hope the chairman of the various committees will have their work in good shape. We are anxious for favorable reports as it will greatly help our cause here as it will fully convince the people of the reality of the Brethren church. Come prepared. Pastors if you can't come send a report of your work to S. P. Fogle, New Market, Va. Don't delay this matter as we only have a very short time to do the work. But let all be found at their post of duty. Come full of the spirit. A good time is expected. The invitation is "come." We hope to see our editor and many others who are not members of the Maryland and Va. conference with us. J. I. HALL.

Meyersdale, Pa.

The Sunday-school at Meyersdale, Pa., recently closed the best winter's term that it has experienced for a number of years, and celebrated the event by re-electing the old corps of officers for the summer term. Much credit is due the superintendent, our young brother Prof. Emanuel Cober, for his faithful and energetic work. Brother Cober is not only a successful public school teacher but also a successful Sunday-school worker, being a graduate of Bucknell University of Pa., and a consecrated member of the Brethren church. We bespeak for him a great field of usefulness in the Master's vineyard. Brother editor, we are much pleased with our Sunday-school literature and consider it among the very best. The outlook for us is very encouraging. JOHN H. KNEPPER, Pastor.

Highland Church, Pa.

Brother R. Z. Replogle, of Johnstown, Pa., came to the Highland church on the 14th of April and preached three able sermons to a large congregation, and left an appointment for the third Saturday of May to be filled by brother D. J. Bole, of Pittsburg, Pa.

J. B. GRABLE.

Bissel, Pa.

SUNDAY OBSERVANCE

Valid Reasons for its Observance

Wilbur F. Craft.

Religion is necessary to the preservation of the state; but is the Sabbath necessary to the preservation of religion? Voltaire answers: "There is no hope of destroying the Christian religion so long as the Christian Sabbath is acknowledged and kept by men as a sacred day." The reverse is also true, that there is no hope of preserving it in any community where the Sabbath is not observed.

Even a clergyman, visiting in Venice, who had lost his reckoning of days, found thru an American friend whom he met at evening that he had unconsciously spent a Sabbath in sight-seeing, having observed no closing of shops or cessation of work or amusement to suggest that it was a holy day. This gives point to Calvin's saying that "if the Lord's day was abolished the church would be in imminent danger of convulsion and ruin."

SUNDAY ABUSE IN POSTOFFICES

A great majority of the postoffices are carried on by not more than two persons, both of whom are needed whenever mails are being handled, and in these cases the whole postoffice force lose a part or all of their Sabbath rest, not once or twice a month, but every Sabbath. In 1890 the Postmaster General reported 60,000 postoffices and 15,000 mail cars, with about 150,000 employes, few of whom do no Sunday work. Government authorizes this needless work in states that forbid Sunday labor and business by its authority over "interstate commerce;" but in such states stamps, postals, etc., can legally be sold on the Sabbath only in "original packages," and mail only so delivered; while collecting Sunday mail from street boxes, if permissible, is at any rate unauthorized. A business man, writing of the two hours' opening of a postoffice on the Sabbath, condemns it as needless, since letters of friendship could wait until the next day, while letters of business can not be of any legitimate use till then, and are not taken out on the Sabbath by the great majority of merchants. Business men may well wait a little for their letters once a week, in order, by allowing postoffice employes Sabbath culture of conscience, to be surer of not losing the most valuable of them altogether. It is significant in this connection that the Shah of Persia, returning from a tour of Europe, determined to have a postoffice system similar to those he had seen, but found himself seriously hindered because his Sabbathless country did not afford enough honest men to handle money letters.

ARGUMENT AGAINST SUNDAY PAPERS

The New York Tribune, when it was not a Sunday paper, said (Nov. 15, 1871): "We are opposed to anything which tends to increase the already too great tendency to break down the observance of the Sabbath. Irrespective of any religious question, which we do not now and here discuss, the difficulty is that its secularization will tend to diminish its prestige as a season of rest from physical labor; and this would be a consummation to be deprecated, for the reason that in this overactive, and as we sometimes think, fatally busy country, a very little opportunity will set a considerable portion of producers to work on Sunday, thus complicating the labor question, which is complicated enough already."

That is my argument against the Sunday Tribune of to-day, which is making most persistent efforts to get those who do not believe in Sunday papers to surrender their